



# TOPSFIELD

## Essex County



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## NARRATIVE

### **Narrative**

The Town of Topsfield lies approximately at the center of Essex County which in turn lies in the Northeast Corner of the Bay State. Topsfield is a fairly compact town of thirteen square miles. It is an area of rolling hills and winding streams, with some of the highest land in Essex County. In addition to the Village Shopping Center are other small businesses located principally along Route 1. However, Topsfield remains primarily a residential community with a population of approximately 5,700. The Town retains a rural character, with a typical New England Town Common.

(Narrative supplied by community)



# GEOGRAPHY

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## Location

Northeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Ipswich on the north, Hamilton and Wenham on the east, Danvers on the south, and Middleton and Boxford on the west. Topsfield is about 10 miles southeast of Lawrence and 20 miles north of Boston.

**Total Area:** 12.83 sq. miles

**Land Area:** 12.66 sq. miles

**Population:** 5,754

**Density:** 455 per sq. mile

## Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Middleton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....25.8°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.6°F

Normal annual precipitation.....43.6"

## U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Georgetown, Salem

## Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

## Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



# GOVERNMENT

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## Municipal Offices

Main Number: (978) 887-1500

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

## Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Administrative Assistant

Open Town Meeting

## Year Incorporated

As a town: 1650

## Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	3,574		
Democrats	580	16.2	%
Republicans	823	23.0	%
Other parties	1	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	2,170	60.7	%

## Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



# DEMOGRAPHICS

**Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic Area: Topsfield town, Essex County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	6,141	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	6,141	100.0
Male.....	2,979	48.5	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	51	0.8
Female.....	3,162	51.5	Mexican.....	2	-
Under 5 years.....	395	6.4	Puerto Rican.....	11	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	561	9.1	Cuban.....	2	-
10 to 14 years.....	516	8.4	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	36	0.6
15 to 19 years.....	371	6.0	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	6,090	99.2
20 to 24 years.....	173	2.8	White alone.....	5,965	97.1
25 to 34 years.....	408	6.6	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	1,109	18.1	Total population.....	6,141	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	1,072	17.5	In households.....	6,023	98.1
55 to 59 years.....	329	5.4	Householder.....	2,099	34.2
60 to 64 years.....	260	4.2	Spouse.....	1,546	25.2
65 to 74 years.....	503	8.2	Child.....	2,079	33.9
75 to 84 years.....	343	5.6	Own child under 18 years.....	1,670	27.2
85 years and over.....	101	1.6	Other relatives.....	182	3.0
Median age (years).....	41.0	(X)	Under 18 years.....	43	0.7
18 years and over.....	4,407	71.8	Nonrelatives.....	117	1.9
Male.....	2,091	34.0	Unmarried partner.....	43	0.7
Female.....	2,316	37.7	In group quarters.....	118	1.9
21 years and over.....	4,259	69.4	Institutionalized population.....	84	1.4
62 years and over.....	1,099	17.9	Noninstitutionalized population.....	34	0.6
65 years and over.....	947	15.4	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	412	6.7	Total households.....	2,099	100.0
Female.....	535	8.7	Family households (families).....	1,713	81.6
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	844	40.2
One race.....	6,101	99.3	Married-couple family.....	1,546	73.7
White.....	6,003	97.8	With own children under 18 years.....	772	36.8
Black or African American.....	23	0.4	Female householder, no husband present.....	127	6.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	2	-	With own children under 18 years.....	63	3.0
Asian.....	52	0.8	Nonfamily households.....	386	18.4
Asian Indian.....	1	-	Householder living alone.....	335	16.0
Chinese.....	13	0.2	Householder 65 years and over.....	193	9.2
Filipino.....	-	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	875	41.7
Japanese.....	8	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	593	28.3
Korean.....	16	0.3	Average household size.....	2.87	(X)
Vietnamese.....	9	0.1	Average family size.....	3.22	(X)
Other Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	5	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-	Total housing units.....	2,144	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	2,099	97.9
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	45	2.1
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> .....	-	-	occasional use.....	18	0.8
Some other race.....	21	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.4	(X)
Two or more races.....	40	0.7	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	1.7	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: <sup>3</sup>			Occupied housing units.....	2,099	100.0
White.....	6,042	98.4	Owner-occupied housing units.....	1,865	88.9
Black or African American.....	30	0.5	Renter-occupied housing units.....	234	11.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	15	0.2	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	3.02	(X)
Asian.....	68	1.1	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.71	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-			
Some other race.....	26	0.4			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

<sup>2</sup> Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

<sup>3</sup> In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



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# HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

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**Home Sales** (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

**Subsidized Housing Units** (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

**Public Housing Units** (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 60

Conventional Federal: 0

**Rental Assistance**(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



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# TRANSPORTATION

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## TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Topsfield is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

### Major Highways

Principal highways are U.S. Route 1 and Interstate 95, both running N-S, and State Route 97.

### Rail

Commuter rail service to North Station, Boston, is available on the Ipswich Line from the Hamilton-Wenham Station in Hamilton. Travel time: 46-48 min.; free parking available.

### Bus

Topsfield is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA).

### Other

The Beverly Municipal Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility in neighboring Beverly, has 3 asphalt runways 3,500'; 4,634'; and 5,001' long. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



# CULTURE AND RECREATION

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## LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

## MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary (Massachusetts Audubon Society)

87 Perkins Row

(978) 887-9264

Topsfield Historical Society

1 Howlett Street

(978) 887-3998

## RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

**Recreational Facilities** (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



# MISCELLANEOUS

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## HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

### Hospitals

None

### Long Term Care

None

### Hospices

None

### Rest Homes

None

### UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.